



Dartmouth paddler surprise Olympic contender

Nineteen-year-old canoeist Jason McCoomb dominated season to secure spot
PAGE 32

LEAVE THE DARK KNIGHT ALONE

ACTOR CHRISTIAN BALE REFLECTS UPON HIS FIRST CLAUSTROPHOBIC EXPERIENCE IN THE BAT SUIT PAGE 25



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WEEKEND, July 13-15, 2012



Nova Centre work to begin soon



From left: Mayor Peter Kelly, Premier Darrell Dexter, Rank Inc. CEO Joe Ramia and Defence Minister Peter MacKay are all smiles at Thursday's announcement that the Nova Centre is moving forward. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

Project developer.

Joe Ramia quiet on tenants for financial centre, hotel operator



ALEX BOUTILIER

alex.boutilier@metronews.ca

LEED Gold certification

Nova Centre is expected to achieve LEED Gold certification, making it one of the largest "green" developments in the province, according to Joe Ramia.

Joe Ramia ended weeks of speculation Thursday, announcing his \$500 million Nova Centre project will go ahead.

Ramia broke the news to a room full of Halifax's political and business elite at Neptune Theatre.

"It took a long, long time to get here," Ramia said, drawing chuckles from the crowd.

"It took a whole lot of patience and perseverance from everyone, including our partners and tenants, for us to be standing here today."

As to the Nova Centre's tenants, Ramia is remaining silent. He refused to comment on how many tenants he has secured for the one-million-square-foot mixed-use development bordered by Argyle, Sackville, Market and Prince streets.

But Ramia did say he expected to be well over 70 per cent occupancy — the "conservative" baseline estimate used by HRM — by the time the facility opens in early 2016.

"We'll be making announcements in the future, (depending) on the tenants

that we have, when they would like to make them," Ramia told reporters after the announcement.

"We have agreements in place, yes.... I believe we'll be higher than (70 per cent occupancy) by the time we open."

Excavation work on the prime downtown lot is expected to begin by Aug. 30. The development — including the convention centre, a hotel, an office tower and a financial centre — is scheduled to be "substantially complete" by Dec. 31, 2015.

It is only after that date that public money — specifically, \$51.4 million from the federal government — will flow to Ramia. The balance of the municipal and provincial capital contributions will be amortized over the 25-year lease of the 289,000-square-foot convention centre.

The final agreement between Ramia's Argyle Developments Inc. and the provincial government has yet to be inked. That document is expected to be finalized by August and signed in November.

Revitalizing the city

'There is much to celebrate'

The three politicians responsible for public investment in the Nova Centre development — Defence Minister Peter

MacKay, Premier Darrell Dexter and Mayor Peter Kelly — all received standing ovations at Joe Ramia's announcement.

"This is going to really revitalize the city, and I believe there is much to celebrate," said MacKay.

"We must all continue to work to take the 'no' out of Nova Scotia."

Dexter told the crowd downtown Halifax isn't reaching its potential.

"It can be better. It can be more populous, more

dynamic, more active," he said. "Halifax is the capital of Atlantic Canada, and I want to keep it that way."

"Everyone who calls Halifax home has a stake in this project," Kelly also said.

ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO



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Reactions

For and against Nova Centre

"Absolutely the business is there.... Halifax could be this country's, in my view, favourite event destination and absolutely the business is there," says Scott Ferguson, president of Trade Centre Ltd.



Scott Ferguson
METRO

"What will emerge at the end of this is something that will be good for Argyle Street, but there's going to be challenges over the next couple of years because of construction," says Paul MacKinnon, director of Downtown Halifax Business Commission.

"Teachers are being laid off, our health system is in disarray and we pay the highest taxes in Canada. We should not be putting a priority on spending hundreds of millions on this risky convention-centre scheme," says Kevin Lacey, of the Canadian Taxpayer's Federation.



Kevin Lacey
CONTRIBUTED

The financial centre "is the most important part, I believe, of this project and for Nova Scotians because it will keep our young kids, after graduating, to be here," developer Joe Ramia says.



Joe Ramia
METRO



A newly erected sign for the Nova Centre has been posted in downtown Halifax inside the grounds of the Argyle Street location. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

Have your say on the new Nova Centre

Development.

Public-engagement sessions taking place provincewide through September

KATE HOWELL
halifax@metro.com

Developers for the home of the new downtown Halifax convention centre are asking for feedback from the public before drawing up any designs.

Eleven public consultations will take place across the province asking Nova Scotians what they want from Joe Ramia's \$500-million Nova Centre and how they want it to look.

Public influence

"There are some basic conditions set in place, but there are specific things that the public can influence."

Tim Merry, Nova Centre consultant

"The engagements we're doing around the province are really about the social and economic benefits that rural communities can gain from a development like this right downtown," said Tim Merry, who is leading the consultation team for the Nova Centre.

Though many of the consultations will occur in Halifax, sessions at the end of August will take place in Sydney, New Glasgow and Truro. Two more sessions will be held in Wolfville and Lunenburg in September.

A large part of the sessions will focus on the aesthetics of the building.

"How is it going to look? How is it going to be iconic to Nova Scotia? Based on those sessions we're going to come back with some drawings probably in October," he explained.

Merry, who oversaw public consultations on Halifax's new central library, said a session in the fall will focus on what the public would like to see happen with the centre's public

space and what kind of activities they hope it will host.

The forum is also going online. A website dedicated to public engagement on the centre will post points raised during the discussions and stream the sessions live.

There will also be a chat room open for additional comments.

The first session will be in Halifax on July 23, although no venue has been determined.

Online

Visit buildyourcentre.ca for more information on the centre and public engagement.



NEWS

On the web

What's awake without a Starbucks brew?

Would a premium cup of Starbucks coffee be a great deal of comfort after a funeral? Go to metronews.ca to find out why one funeral home in the U.S. seems to think so.

Mobile news



Dogs are judged on the way they mount, their speed, stamina and dismount — so says the announcer at The Humpy Awards. Does this sound like a real award celebrating the natural behaviour of pooches or something else? Scan the code to find out more.

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Homicide. Another murder charge laid in Corey Lucas killing

A fourth person charged in the killing of Corey Duane Lucas appeared in Halifax provincial court on Thursday.

Jason Matthew Halsey, 27, was arrested on Wednesday morning at a Clifton Street residence and is charged with first-degree murder and attempted murder.

Halifax Regional Police say they believe Halsey will be the first person facing charges in the case.

"At this point, based on our investigation and information to date, we aren't expecting any other arrests," said spokesman Const. Brian Palmeter. "We believe we have certainly the two main involved people."

Halsey has been remanded to the Central Nova Correctional Facility in Burnside until his next court appearance on Aug. 23.

Dylan Peter Roach, a 20-year-old arrested last month, is also charged with first-degree murder and attempted murder.

Simon Peter Dugas, 27, was charged with first-degree murder and attempted murder at the beginning of the week, but those charges were withdrawn on Wednesday. He is now charged with accessory after



The building where Corey Duane Lucas was fatally shot.

METRO FILE PHOTO

the fact.

Jenna Karlene Piercy, a 27-year-old from Prospect, has also been charged with accessory after the fact, and possession for the purposes of trafficking.

Lucas, 36, was gunned down in an apartment at 2711 Clifton St. on May 25. Another 31-year-old man was shot, but survived. He was later released from hospital.

Police believe the shooting was drug-related, but have declined to give more specifics about the incident. Gang involvement is not suspected.

SPENCER BUELL/METRO

Investigation. Missing girl spotted by motorist

Truro police have located 21-year-old Halifax university student Kashmala Fida.



Kashmala Fida
CONTRIBUTED

Insp. Rob Hearn said Fida was found walking along Lower Truro Road at about 5 p.m. and was noticed by a passing motorist, who recognized her and contacted police.

Hearn said she's now in hospital as a precaution with her family.

Once released from hospital, police say they will be speaking with her to determine where she was the past two days.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

Fida, who attends the University of King's College, has been missing since Tuesday morning.

She was last seen dropping her mother off at work at the Colchester Regional Hospital in Truro.

The car was left in the hospital parking lot. Fida's parents reported her missing to police Tuesday night.

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es., Williams said, adding the 74-passenger Q400's will replace nine planes.

"What we are doing is consolidating our heavy maintenance activity to one base."

Air Canada Jazz will continue flying out of the London airport, meaning about 50 of the company's local employees will stay on the job.

The decision to transfer and cut jobs is part of a company-wide strategy aimed at "strengthening our operating economics," Williams said.

The 158 maintenance employees are represented by CAW Local 2002. Officials there did not respond to a request for a comment.

Air Canada Jazz, which used to be called Air Ontario,

In Halifax

- Premier Darrell Dexter and Chorus Aviation Inc. will be holding a press conference Monday at the Jazz Aviation hangar at Halifax Stanfield International Airport.
- A release on Thursday said there will be an "important announcement regarding its operations in Nova Scotia."

has had a presence at the London airport since the late 1980s. Aside from Halifax, it has offices in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Montreal.

Former PM Martin calls for aboriginal-education reform

First Nations.

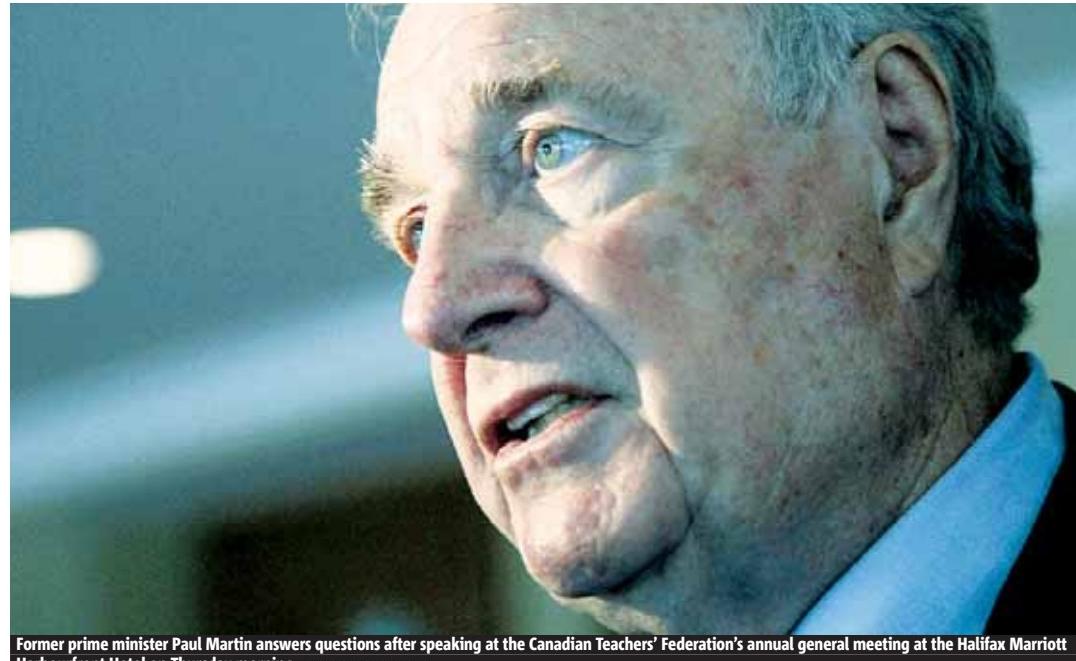
Ex-Liberal leader speaks to audience at Canadian Teachers' Federation conference in Halifax

When it comes to education, former prime minister Paul Martin says the federal government has failed to meet the needs of aboriginal Canadians.

Speaking on Thursday to the Canadian Teachers' Federation during its annual general meeting at the Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, Martin called for increased funding for aboriginal schools and an overhaul of the curriculum to embrace native culture and drive down dropout rates on reserves.

He also had some harsh criticism for the Harper government, and called funding gaps between native and non-native schools "human-rights violations."

"Education is a universal good," Martin told the crowd. "It is a universal and free good in our country, and to discriminate in its funding between one kind of Canadian and another



Former prime minister Paul Martin answers questions after speaking at the Canadian Teachers' Federation's annual general meeting at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel on Thursday morning. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

kind of Canadian is an absolute act of discrimination that

should be condemned."

Martin established the Mar-

tin Aboriginal Education Initiative after retiring from politics

in 2006. The organization has advocated for incorporating

more aboriginal history into classrooms across Canada and developed a program in schools to teach entrepreneurship in native communities.

It also established the Capital for Aboriginal Prosperity and Entrepreneurship Fund to support aboriginal small businesses.

"All of the programs are showing improvement, but the thing we've really got to understand is that we're still at the base camp of Mount Everest," Martin told reporters afterwards. "There is so much to do."

Alexis Allen, president of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, said Thursday it's up to educators, with the support of government, to reach out to aboriginal communities and support students both academically and culturally.

"Let's work together — let's not dictate, let's not have it from a white ethnocentric voice," Allen said to reporters. "We definitely have to say, 'It's a new time, it's a new world, let's work together and support all children to be the best they can.'"

SPENCER BUELL/FOR METRO

Refunds in order if NSP overcharged: Premier



Nova Scotia Power's Tufts Cove.

METRO FILE

If Nova Scotia Power overcharged its customers by about \$22 million, then "every cent" should be repaid immediately, Premier Darrell Dexter said Thursday.

An audit by the Liberty Consulting Group released this week said the private utility owes its customers a refund because it paid too much for fuel over the past two years.

Dexter said a measure was put in place in 2009 to ensure customers get the best possible fuel prices. He said if that didn't happen, then residents and businesses should be refunded.

"If the audit is correct, then every cent of that surplus that was taken from Nova Scotia ratepayers should be returned to them," Dexter said in Halifax on Thursday.

"If there is a miscalculation or if there is more than was necessary taken from ratepayers, that money goes directly, and I would say immediately, back to ratepayers."

Rene Gallant, vice-president of regulatory affairs for Nova Scotia Power, said the utility does not accept the findings of the audit.

"We believe we've done

everything we can ... to keep costs as low as reasonably possible," said Gallant.

Nova Scotia Power has asked the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for a three per cent rate increase for 2013 and 2014.

Gallant said the audit will be debated in September at a public hearing about the proposed hike.

He said if the provincial regulator accepts the U.S.-based consultant's audit, Nova Scotia Power may be forced to lower power bills by about 1.5 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Muskrat Falls. Possible cost hike worrying: Dexter

Premier Darrell Dexter says the potential increase in costs for the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric project in Labrador is concerning, but it's still the most effective way of delivering power to his province.

Dexter's comments came ahead of a meeting Thursday with Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Kathy Dunderdale about the proposed development.

The cost of the project has previously been pegged at \$6.2 billion, but Dunderdale

has said that will likely increase.

When asked whether he was concerned about the possibility of costs for Muskrat Falls escalating, Dexter replied, "Of course."

"We've already looked at that and we've done studies that look at the delivery of power to Nova Scotians," Dexter said in Halifax.

"And the most effective way of doing that is through a project like the Lower Churchill." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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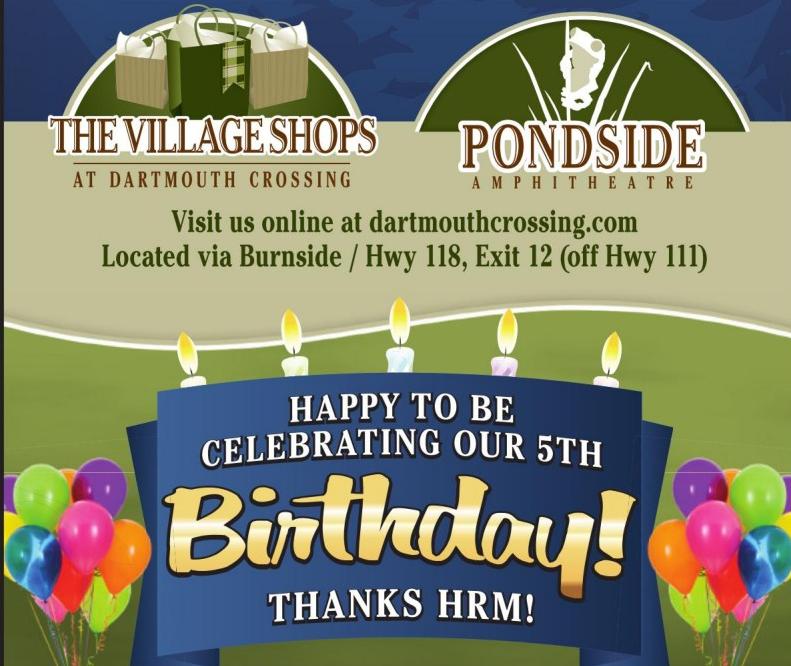
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Province pledges \$3.5M toward IWK Health Centre

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Quoted



"New technology and equipment are important in continuing to provide safe, quality health-care services."

Health Minister Dave Wilson

The provincial government is spending approximately \$3 million for 19 new anesthesia machines and monitors at the IWK Health Centre.

Health and Wellness Minister Dave Wilson made the announcement Thursday at the IWK. The province also committed \$500,000 for new laboratory and pharmacy equipment.

"This investment will improve care and enhance safety for patients throughout the province," Wilson said in a release.

According to Capital Health, the replacement of anesthesia machines was one of the top capital priorities for the IWK Health Centre.

The government investment accounted for about 75 per cent of the cost of the equipment, while the IWK's donors covered the remaining 25 per cent.

"Together, (our donors) raised \$1 million towards the replacement of these essential pieces of equipment," said Jennifer Gillivan, the president and CEO of the IWK Health Centre, in a release. "We repeatedly asked them to dig deep and help us achieve our vision. They heard us, and they delivered."

The opposition Progressive Conservatives, however, were not so pleased by the announcement. According to the Tories, the NDP spent \$11.7 million less on medical equipment this year compared to when they formed government in 2009.



It's a bird. It's a plane. It's a backhoe.

Workers lower a backhoe onto the roof of the former Citadel Hotel as part of the structure's ongoing demolition. A new Homewood Suites by Hilton hotel and a Hampton hotel will be built on the site, with opening dates set for 2014. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

Equalization grant

N.S. gives \$30M to municipalities

The province is providing Nova Scotia's municipalities with \$30 million in its annual equalization grant. The unconditional funding is for fiscal 2012-13. The amount of the grant is based on available funds and the government says the same funding level has been maintained for seven years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Terminal touring

Cops on bicycles patrol airport

People coming and going through the Halifax Stanfield International Airport will now see police patrolling on bicycles.

The RCMP and the airport teamed up and bought bikes for the two officers in charge of patrolling in and around the terminal and parkade. This is their third week on the bikes.

"There's been great public feedback. People are feeling more secure, and officers are getting more contact with the community," said Cpl. Scott MacRae, spokesman for the Halifax RCMP. Bikes are often used to patrol areas around HRM, but this is the first time officers are cycling at the airport.

MacRae said officers are more visible to travellers, can respond more quickly and cover more territory.

KATE HOWELL/FOR METRO

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More rainfall needed**Open-fire ban now affects whole province**

Nova Scotia's Natural Resources Department has ordered an immediate provincewide ban on open fires. The department says recent dry and warm weather has elevated the fire weather index to high or extreme throughout the province.

It's hoped the ban will reduce the risk of wildfires. In a press release, the department says "significant rainfall" is needed before the ban can be lifted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Truro street brawl**Woman charged in murder case back in court**

A 24-year-old Halifax woman has been remanded until Aug. 16 on a charge of second-degree murder in the death of a 26-year-old man following a street brawl in Truro.

Barbara Elizabeth Marshall is one of two people charged after the July 2010 death of Ben Hare.

Twenty-four-year-old Dustin Joseph Preerer, also of Halifax, has also been arraigned on the same charge. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Standard bacteria levels****Swimming OK again at Sandy Lake Beach**

Sandy Lake Beach is back open for swimmers.

On Wednesday, HRM announced the beach off Hammonds Plains Road in Bedford had been closed indefinitely after tests turned up high levels of bacteria.

But one day later, the municipality says tests showed bacteria levels were back within standard Health Canada swimming guidelines.

METRO

Back-to-school season**Target announces opening dates for HRM stores**

Target has set its target for opening its first stores in Nova Scotia.

The popular American retail chain says new locations at Bedford Place Mall and at Bayers Lake will be opening in the fall of 2013. That is the same time period announced previously for the Mic Mac Mall location.

In total, Target will be opening 125 locations across Canada in 2013. The other Nova Scotia location opening next year is this upcoming



Customers shop at a Target store in Chicago. SCOTT OLSON/GETTY IMAGES

winter at the Sydney Shopping Centre.

Each location will be undergoing remodelling, a Target release issued Thursday states, totalling over \$10 million countrywide.

The store also estimates it will hire between 150 to 200 employees at each of its new locations. **METRO**

Marianas Trench back in town – this time they're headlining

Concert Friday.

Vancouver group excited for return to Halifax, joining Carly Rae Jepsen for Alderney Landing gig

JENNA CONTER

halifax@metronews.ca

Mike Aley of Marianas Trench says he doesn't like to play favourites, but since their tour with Simple Plan brought them to the Halifax Metro Centre back in February, the rockers are excited to be coming back to the Nova Scotia capital.

"I love it out in Halifax. The people are very, very nice," Aley said in a recent interview. "The show we did with Simple Plan was one of the better ones: lots of fun, and got a great crowd reaction."

Now the headliners, the

Don't miss it

- Marianas Trench with Carly Rae Jepsen is set for Friday at Alderney Landing. Gates open at 5 p.m., show starts at 6 p.m. General admission tickets are \$47.



Vancouver group is bringing their Ever After tour across the bridge to Alderney Landing outdoor stage in Dartmouth and taking with them recent pop sensation Carly Rae Jepsen.

Though the world has

only recently added Jepsen to its musical consciousness, the singer, a fellow native of the West Coast, has been a longtime friend of the band.

"She's been touring with us for years," Aley said.

Jepsen's smash single, Call Me Maybe, was co-written by Marianas Trench's producer, lead singer and songwriter, Josh Ramsay.

"Carly's a super-cool chick, and her and her band have been friends of ours for years," Aley added.

The boys' most recent album, Ever After, which dropped back in 2011, further showcases the talents of frontman Ramsay.

Aley said the band's lead singer wanted to make an album that would "almost function as one piece of music with different movements."

"We decided to bring the fairytale theme for stage props, styling and album artwork that could get fans more involved," he said.



Marianas Trench say they're excited about a return to Halifax. CONTRIBUTED



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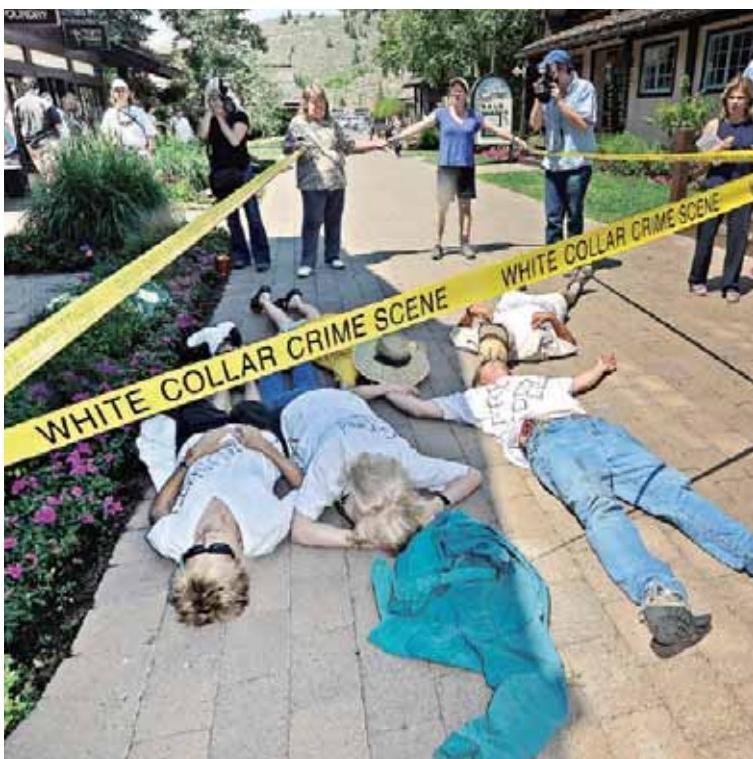
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Stop the techies

Occupy Boise protesters block a pathway in Sun Valley Village during Allen & Company's Sun Valley Conference on July 12, 2011, in Sun Valley, Idaho. Since 1983, the investment firm Allen & Company hosted the annual media and technology conference which was attended by powerful media executives on Thursday.

KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

The Scream's owner revealed

Billionaire Leon Black, chairman and founder of the "buyout shop" Apollo Global Management LLC, bought Edward Munch's The Scream in a Sotheby's Inc. auction for about \$120 million, the Wall Street Journal said on its website.

The newspaper quoted "several people close to the collector."

Black and his wife, Debra, are considered to be one of the world's top art collectors, the Los Angeles Times reports.

Among his collection are works by Old Masters and Impressionists, according to Forbes magazine. The magazine listed his worth as \$3.4 billion.

A company biography

says Black sits on the boards of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art. His wife is a theatre producer who has backed a number of Broadway productions.

The identity of the buyer was not revealed at the time of the sale. Black bid by telephone. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Amputee swims across Straits of Gibraltar

Feats of endurance.

The 14-km swim is the fourth major challenge Philippe Croizon has tackled

A quadruple amputee successfully swam across the Straits of Gibraltar to Morocco on Thursday as part of an effort to swim between all the world's continents.

Philippe Croizon, who lost his arms and legs in an electrical accident, has already swum the English Channel as well as between Indonesia and Papua-New Guinea, and between Asia and Africa in the Gulf of Aqaba.

Croizon, a French citizen, swims with the aid of prosthetic flippers attached to his leg stumps and a snorkel to breathe through. He made the 14-kilometre crossing from Tarifa, Spain, in just over five hours with a friend, Arnaud Chassery.

Croizon said upon his arrival near the city of Tangiers that he is trying to link the continents of the world with his swimming to show "we are all together on the same planet."

"We have proven that an able-bodied person and a handicapped person can link the five continents together by swimming. We've proven that we are all the same, that there are no differences, whatever the politics, the skin colour, the religion or the handicap," Croizon said.

The swimmer's arms and legs were amputated after he suffered an electric shock



Quadruple amputee Philippe Croizon, his able-bodied teammate Arnaud Chassery, right, and friend Theo Curin, left, celebrate the completion of a 14-kilometre swim across the Straits of Gibraltar on Thursday. EL YAAKOUBI AZIZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greater purpose

"We've proven that we are all the same, that there are no differences, whatever the politics, the skin colour, the religion or the handicap"

Philippe Croizon

in 1994 as he stood on a ladder adjusting his television antenna, which touched a power line.

Croizon was greeted by friends and well-wishers, as well as his mother Monique Croizon, and they celebrated by waving French and Moroccan flags on the picturesque beach.

"The crossing was quite difficult. We had to swim more than I'm used to. I'm used to long distances but that was a really long distance. There were strong currents," he said. "My back

was hurting for a while, but I really wanted this and we've completed the third of our swims."

Croizon plans a swim across a section of the Bering Straits, which although a shorter distance, is made harder by the near-freezing water temperature. He hopes to make that crossing next month, depending on the weather and sea conditions.

He added that after crossing the Bering Straits, he will be received by President Barack Obama.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Battle of the drivers**Town designates 'men only' parking**

Triberg, a town in southwest Germany, has drawn accusations of sexism after designating two particularly tricky parking spaces "men only." The mayor says women would find it difficult to park there. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Misunderstanding?**Poster will remain despite criticism**

A poster showing a baby with a Hitler moustache is staying up at Montreal's Just For Laughs Festival. The image had drawn the ire of B'nai Brith, with the group saying it conjured up disturbing memories. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

A poster advertising a comedy show in Montreal. **THE CANADIAN PRESS****Quebec student protest****Organizers to visit Ontario campuses**

Quebec organizers responsible for the longest and largest student strike in Canadian history are taking their message to Ontario university campuses. The nine-day solidarity tour kicks off Thursday night in Ottawa. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Sinclair inquiry**Social workers' request denied**

Dozens of Manitoba social workers who dealt with a young girl who died of abuse and neglect will not be anonymous when they testify at public inquiry into her death, the inquiry commissioner decided Thursday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Court ruling**B.C. drivers won't be compensated**

Thousands of British Columbia drivers caught by drunk driving laws that a judge later declared unconstitutional won't be compensated for their financial losses, the B.C. Supreme Court has ruled. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Slow removal makes for interesting backdrop**

Tourists relax on rocks in front of the Costa Concordia wreckage on the Giglio Island, Italy, on Thursday. Work has begun to remove the tons of rocky reef embedded into the cruise ship's hull, a first step in plans to eventually tow the wreck away from the island, where it ran aground last January. The whole removal process could take as long as a year. In a broadcast interview Tuesday, Concordia's captain Francesco Schettino described the collision as a "banal accident" in which "destiny" played a role. **GREGORIO BORGIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Nigeria. Truck explosion kills at least 95 people

A truck carrying fuel veered off the road into a ditch, caught fire and exploded in Nigeria's oil-rich delta on Thursday, killing at least 95 people who had rushed to the scene to scoop fuel that had spilled, an official said, in a tragic reminder of how little of the country's oil wealth has trickled down to the poor.

At least 50 others were injured in the incident in the southern Niger Delta region, said Rivers State spokeswoman Ibinim Semenitari.

Witnesses said some charred corpses were still lying in the area hours after the explosion, including bodies the size of children. "What did these small ones know about coming to scoop fuel?" wondered Alagoa Morris, coordinator at advocacy group Oil Watch Nigeria.

He said some women wailed at the scene of the explosion, desperately looking for their relatives. The location of some of the bodies suggested that they were trying to run away

when fire consumed them, Morris added.

The fuel truck was trying to avoid a head-on collision with buses when it swerved into the ditch Thursday morning, said police spokesman Ben Ugwuobulam. It then overturned, leaving its fuel to spill, and people immediately swarmed to the scene. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Missing prosperity

- Despite decades as an oil-producing region, the majority of those living in the Niger Delta remain desperately poor.
- Anger has driven young people to attack foreign oil firms based there, and steal fuel.
- The OPEC member now pumps out about 2.4 million barrels of oil a day, making it Africa's biggest producer.

TD. Iranian community angered by bank bans

Iranian Canadians who've had their bank accounts with one of Canada's biggest banks closed, often without notice, say they feel they're being treated as second-class citizens in their own country.

Members of the community say TD Canada Trust began notifying a number of Iranian-Canadian clients in May that it would no longer provide them with banking services.

Some of the letters sent out earlier this month indicated the bank was closing the accounts in order to comply with Ottawa's economic sanctions against the Iranian regime.

"I've been a Canadian citizen for 10 years and this is the first time I'm feeling that I've been treated differently than a Canadian citizen," says Pooya Sadeghi, who moved to Toronto from Iran 14 years ago.

Sadeghi says the TD account he shared with his wife and her parents was closed two days before he received a letter from the bank on May 2.

"There was no explanation

Sounding off

"No Canadians should be subject to this. A discrimination and charter challenge should be in place."

A comment posted on TD's Facebook page

in our letter about why TD was closing the account," he said.

In the past few weeks he found out that many other Iranian Canadians had had their accounts closed in similar circumstances, and that the letters sent to them mentioned Canada's economic sanctions.

Many Western countries, including Canada, have imposed tough sanctions aimed at cracking down on Iran's nuclear program. Tehran says it is developing nuclear power for peaceful purposes, but the international community believes it wants to build a nuclear weapon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Penn State officials showed 'disregard' for victims: Report**Sandusky scandal.**

Says further abuse could have been prevented had coach, staff acted after 1998 incident

Ex-Penn State coach Joe Paterno. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Joe Paterno and other top Penn State officials hushed up child sex abuse allegations against Jerry Sandusky more than a decade ago for fear of bad publicity, allowing the former assistant football coach to prey on other youngsters, according to a scathing report issued Thursday on the scandal.

"Our most saddening and sobering finding is the total disregard for the safety and welfare of Sandusky's child victims by the most senior leaders

at Penn State," said former FBI Director Louis Freeh, who was hired to look into one of sports' biggest scandals.

The firm's 267-page report, following an eight-month probe, stated that sexual abuse might have been prevented if school officials had banned Sandusky from bringing children onto campus after a 1998 inquiry. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

French Alps. Avalanche kills 9 mountain climbers

They set out before dawn, hoping to conquer a mountaineering classic: Mont Blanc, Western Europe's highest peak. But below the prized summit, a climber is believed to have accidentally caused a slab of ice to snap off, triggering an avalanche Thursday that swept nine climbers to their deaths and injured a dozen others.

As the sheet of snow and ice thundered down the steep slope, several other climbers managed to turn away from the slide in time, regional authorities in Haute-Savoie said.

Two climbers were rescued

Gendarmes use blankets to hide victims of an avalanche. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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Syria. Ambassador joins string of notable defectors

A string of high-profile defections from the Syrian regime has stirred hopes in the West that President Bashar Assad's inner circle will start abandoning him in greater numbers, hastening his downfall.

But the tightly protected regime has largely held together over the course of the 16-month-old uprising, driven by a mixture of fear and loyalty.

The latest official to flee, the Syrian ambassador to Iraq, Nawaf Fares, announced that he was joining the revolution, asserting Thursday that only force will drive Assad from power. He is the most senior diplomat to abandon Assad.

"There is no road map ever with Bashar Assad, because any plan, any statement that is agreed on internationally he delays on and ignores," Fares told the Al-Jazeera satellite channel. "There is no way that he can be pushed from power without force, and the Syrian people realize this."



Syrian ambassador Nawaf Fares
BASSEM TELLAWI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Syria's Foreign Ministry denounced Fares, saying he should face "legal and disciplinary accountability."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell hailed what he called the "first major diplomatic defection," adding: "We think this is a wider sign that the regime is feeling the pressure. The pressure is up and the regime is really starting to fall apart."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nuclear power. U.S. slaps new sanctions on Iran

The Obama administration on Thursday hit Iran with more sanctions designed to hinder the country's nuclear and ballistic-missile programs.

The Treasury Department announced new financial sanctions against 11 companies affiliated with the Iranian defence ministry, Revolutionary Guard Corps and national shipping line as well as a university, all for actions they took to support the programs. Several of the firms are already subject to U.S. and European sanctions.

Treasury also slapped penalties on four men, including

an Austrian national and three Iranians, for similar activity.

"Iran today is under intense, multilateral sanctions pressure, and we will continue to ratchet up the pressure so long as Iran refuses to address the international community's well-founded concerns about its nuclear program," said David Cohen, Treasury's undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence.

The sanctions freeze any assets that the firms and individuals may have in U.S. jurisdictions and bar Americans from doing business with them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Flood protection in Haiti to cost homes

A man shouts while holding a corner of a Haitian national flag during a march protesting a government plan to demolish their homes, in Port-au-Prince on Thursday. The government recently announced that it planned to demolish hundreds of homes to build a flood-protection project in the ravine that looms over the capital and to relocate the residents northeast of the capital. DIEU NALIO CHERY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban take revenge on police

Pakistan. Gunmen kill nine, injure eight, in retaliation for torture of Taliban fighters

Taliban gunmen opened fire on a compound housing policemen in eastern Pakistan on Thursday, killing nine of them, officials said.

The police who were targeted in the city of Lahore were training to become prison guards, said Habibur Rehman, the chief of police in Punjab province, where Lahore is the capital.

Pakistani Taliban spokesman Ahsanullah Ahsan claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was revenge for the police torture of their fighters in prison.

The police who were attacked were recruited from northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a one-time base for the Taliban, and were brought to Lahore for training, said Rehman.

Eight policemen also suffered bullet wounds, said Salman Saddiq, a government official. One of the wounded, Shafqat Imran, said that eight to 10 attackers, their faces hid-

den behind hoods, stormed into the compound and started shooting randomly. They shouted "God is great," then shot the policemen one by one, said Imran.

The Pakistani military launched a massive offensive against the Taliban in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Swat Valley in 2009, and many militants were captured and imprisoned.

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Mysterious disease strain continues to confound experts

Outbreak. Menacing form of hand, foot and mouth disease includes symptoms of high fever, brain swelling and paralysis

Tran Minh Giang has spent more than a third of his young life in a Vietnamese hospital, and it could be many months more before he can go home. All for a disease that in Asia is as common as chicken pox, and usually about as severe.

The 20-month-old boy was sickened by a particularly menacing form of hand, foot and mouth disease that has killed hundreds of young children across the region. They sometimes suffer high fever, brain swelling, paralysis and respiratory shutdown, even though they may have been infected by people with few or no symptoms.

When the strain hit Cam-

bodia recently, doctors there had no idea what it was, and even now experts don't fully understand why it can be so devastating. Seven months after becoming sick, Giang still breathes using a ventilator connected to a hole in his tiny throat.

"It may take time, maybe years, before he can recover. When he sleeps, his lungs don't work," his father, Tran Nam Trung, said Thursday. "When he first got a high fever, I didn't think that he would be in a situation like this."

The enterovirus 71 strain, or EV-71, raised fears earlier this week when it was detected in some lab samples taken after 52 of 59 Cambodian children died suddenly from a mystery illness that sparked international alarm. The World Health Organization said via Twitter on Thursday that its investigation has found most cases were caused by the disease.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Tran Nam Trung adjusts a tube of the respirator attached to his son Tran Minh Giang who has been hospitalized for the past seven months at the National Hospital of Pediatrics in Hanoi, Vietnam, on Thursday. The 20-month-old boy fell victim to a form of hand, foot and mouth disease that has killed hundreds of young children across Asia recently. TRAN VAN MINH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cave tools give new hints to origins of first Americans



Three Western Stemmed Projectiles discovered in caves near Paisley, Ore.
JIM BARLOW/UNIVERSITY OF OREGON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stone tools and human DNA from ancient caves in the western U.S. offer new evidence of how some of the first Americans may have spread through the continent from Asia: on two different routes, as shown by two different ways of making the tips of spears.

Archaeologists said Thursday that they have dated broken obsidian spear points from Paisley Caves in Oregon to about 13,200 years ago — as old as much different stone tools from the Clovis culture found in the southeast and interior U.S. And radio-carbon dating of human DNA from

coprolites — ancient desiccated human feces — shows people lived in the caves as early as 14,300 years ago.

The dates indicate that the Clovis style of chipping stone was not the mother of Stone Age technology, as others have theorized, and that the two styles were developed independently by different groups, said Dennis Jenkins, an archaeologist with the University of Oregon's Museum of Natural and Cultural History who led the excavations.

Jenkins said the findings suggest those groups may have taken separate routes after crossing the Ice Age land

bridge from Asia. Those making western stemmed projectiles may have gone down the coast, while the Clovis people travelled through an ice-free corridor in the interior U.S.

The findings by a team of scientists from the U.S., Britain and Denmark were reported online in the journal Science.

Not all experts are convinced.

"Points are not people," said David Meltzer, professor of prehistory at Southern Methodist University. "Just because two ways of fashioning projectile points are different doesn't mean different populations — any more than dif-

Unique features

- The Clovis culture is named for elegantly chipped stone points found at a site uncovered in 1929 near Clovis, N.M.
- The bases are distinctly concave where they were tied to the wooden shafts of spears or throwing darts for hunting

ferent groups of people drive Hummers rather than Priuses." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Simon Whitfield named Canada's Olympic flag-bearer

Curse or Blessing?

Triathlete declares that leading the Canadian team into London 2012 opening ceremonies will not be a burden

Some consider it a jinx, others too much of a distraction, but Simon Whitfield says being Canada's flag-bearer will be his secret weapon.

The 37-year-old triathlete will lead the Canadian team into the opening ceremonies at the London Olympics later this month.

Whitfield won a gold medal for Canada at the 2000 Sydney Games where triathlon made

its Olympic debut, and then captured a silver at the 2008 Beijing Games.

And the native of Kingston, Ont., suggested Thursday after being introduced as flag-bearer that the honour of carrying the Maple Leaf will help him reach the podium once again.

Canada's flag-bearer for the 2010 Winter Olympics was Clara Hughes, who went on to win a bronze medal in speed-skating.

At the 2008 Beijing Games, kayaker Adam van Koeverden won a silver medal in the 500 metres after carrying the flag, though he also finished a disappointing eighth in the 1,000.

Diver Alexandre Despatie had also been considered a contender to be named flag-bearer but said recently he would de-

Debunking the myth

"It's so last century to say that it's a jinx."

Canadian Olympian Simon Whitfield responds to questions about whether being the Olympic flag-bearer is unlucky

cide the offer because it was a distraction.

The COC also officially announced Thursday the team that will compete in London.

It comprises 277 athletes from 10 provinces and territories. They will compete in 26 sport disciplines, supported by 93 coaches and a mission team of 137. The opening ceremonies are July 27 and Whitfield will compete on Aug. 7.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Triathlete Simon Whitfield waves the Canadian flag during Thursday's Olympic ceremony on Parliament Hill.

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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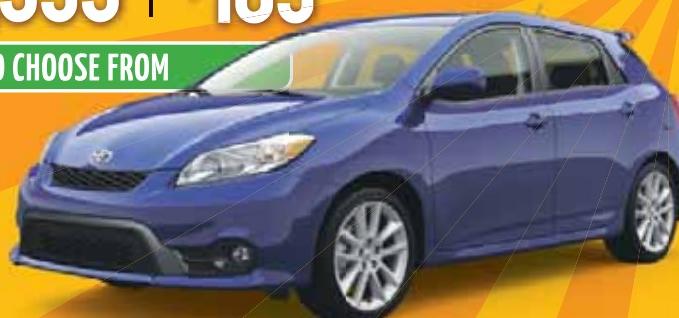


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Laid-off auto workers struggle to pay debt, bills: CAW study

Three-year report.

Many having to rely on temporary work or delay retirement, survey of laid-off members finds

A new report on the Canadian Auto Workers' (CAW) three-year study of laid-off auto workers finds that more than half of them have had to seek financial help from family and friends in order to pay the bills.

The second round of findings from the union's Worker Adjustment Tracking Study found that 55 per cent of laid-off workers surveyed from March 2011 to February 2012 have relied on financial support from family and friends.

The report also found that reliance on temporary employment agency work has increased over the study

period, with about 30 per cent of all workers reporting temporary employment.

Many older workers surveyed said they had delayed retirement as a result of their layoff.

The study, sponsored by the CAW union, tracks the impact of being out of work among 260 laid-off auto-industry workers as part of a three-year project and follows on initial findings from 2009.

The CAW, which has members at the Canadian operations of General Motors, Ford, Chrysler and many smaller automotive manufacturers provided an advance copy of the report ahead of its official release Thursday.

About 40 per cent of those studied said they had difficulty paying off their debts.

Many workers, including those currently employed report a financial debt legacy associated

By the numbers

500,000

Over the past 10 years, Canada has lost over 500,000 manufacturing jobs, including nearly 300,000 across Ontario.

with their layoffs that continues," the report finds.

Nearly one-third of those surveyed said uncertainty over their employment situation often interfered with their family or personal lives.

The study also finds that two-thirds of workers had enrolled in a retraining program and about 90 per cent completed their programs.

The project focused on job-market experiences of laid-off manufacturing workers in Ontario. Over the past 10 years, Canada has lost over 500,000 manufacturing jobs, including nearly 300,000 across Ontario.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



A model modern aircraft

United Airlines CEO Jeff Smisek accepts a model of Boeing's new 737 Max 9 from Boeing Commercial Airplanes CEO Ray Conner, left, during a news conference on Thursday in Chicago. United Airlines and Boeing announced that United is buying 150 Boeing 737s, and is planning to use them to replace older planes that are not as fuel-efficient.

M. SPENCER GREEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earnings. Canadian banks under pressure

Canada's biggest banks are taking a closer look at ways to reduce their expenses this summer as they prepare for slower earnings growth, according to

a new report from Barclays.

Analyst John Aiken, who released a broad overview of the country's banking industry on Thursday, said that cost controls are near the top of the list for the industry as it grapples with tighter revenues.

The banks will look at ways to make their technical operations more efficient to save time and money, but if that doesn't create enough savings, jobs could be in jeopardy, he suggested.

"If this environment continues, you may need to see some more dramatic cost-cutting measures put in place,"

Aiken said in an interview.

However, Aiken said that some banks are looking at routes such as changing variable compensation structures to defer some payments, rather than simply the more immediate relief of cutting jobs.

"Process improvement to create more efficiencies ... will take a longer time frame to reap the expected benefits," he noted.

Bank of Montreal chief executive Bill Downe highlighted the bank's continuing plans to lower costs across its operations as part of a long-term review that examines all

of its businesses.

Some of those savings will be recognized through the closure of 24 of its U.S. BMO Harris bank branches in the U.S. Midwest, which is expected to trim \$300 million US — though integration and restructuring costs are expected to be \$600 million over the next few years.

National Bank and Royal Bank were also vocal about their cost-management plans.

The report said that TD Bank is likely to spend more attention on compensation plans that discourage risk-taking.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Labour. Most new jobs high-quality: CIBC report

CIBC reports on job quality, which have tended to show that a higher proportion of employment created since the 2008-09 recession has tended to be in the lower-paying service sector, or has been part-time or self-employment.

It is already known that Canada's economy churned out 155,000 new jobs in the first half of this year, more than economists had expected, the CIBC says in its latest report on employment quality.

But the bigger surprise is that most of those jobs have been of the full-time and high-paying variety.

That is a break from past

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Passwords leaked

Yahoo confirms security breach

Some 450,000 Yahoo users' email addresses and passwords have been leaked because of a security breach, the company confirmed Thursday, adding that just a small fraction of the stolen passwords were valid.

Yahoo said it is fixing the vulnerability that led to the disclosure, changing the passwords of affected Yahoo users, and notifying other companies whose users' accounts may have been compromised.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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98.17c US (+0.12c)

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YOU ASKED F

Supreme Court reins in array of copyright fees

Rights levy. Top court rules on five different cases involving tariffs set by the Copyright Board

The Supreme Court of Canada has reined in the application of copyright fees levied on music, movies, video games and printed materials that Canadians download and copy in different ways.

The rulings could result in big savings for school boards — but music consumers shouldn't hold their breath.

The top court examined five different cases at once that touched on tariffs set by the Copyright Board.

All the cases pitted the societies that collect fees on behalf of creators against the distributors or users of the copyrighted materials.

One of the biggest cases involved ministers of education and school boards from across the country versus Access Copyright. The two sides had butted heads at the Copyright Board over how much schools had to pay for the right to photocopy parts of books for students.

When students copy material for private study or re-

search, it's considered "fair dealing" under the Copyright Act and doesn't always trigger fees.

In a 5-4 decision, the Court found that the Copyright Board had incorrectly treated teachers differently when they photocopied materials for their students, "driving an artificial wedge into these unified purposes of instruction and research/private study."

"There is no separate purpose on the part of the teachers in this case," wrote Justice Rosalie Abella. "They have no ulterior or commercial motive when providing copies to students."

Abella wrote that there is no evidence of a link between photocopying short excerpts of a book and the decline in textbook sales.

The Copyright Board will have to examine the fees again in light of the decision, but it could have a positive financial impact on educational institutions that pay millions annually to publishers through Access Copyright.

Rosanie Levy, chief counsel for Access Copyright, emphasized that the ruling is just one factor the Copyright Board will take into account when it is negotiating fair licences and fees.

She pointed to the example of a publisher who tailors books specifically for a province's needs, only to see the school boards there buy fewer copies than they have students. Teachers sometimes then copy portions for the class.

"Even after the Supreme Court of Canada deci-

sion, we still do not know whether these uses (of the material) are fair or not," said Levy.

The four other cases involved the layering on of fees for works based on the way they are transmitted to the consumer.

The court decided unanimously that there should be no copyright fees levied on cable companies or other digital providers when music is downloaded, but that artists should be compensated when it is streamed online.

Eric Baptiste, CEO of SOCAN, said the body representing music songwriters is disappointed with the rulings that did not compensate the creators.

A lawyer for Rogers, one of the digital service provid-

ers that went up against SOCAN, said the industry is now owed roughly three cents for every song downloaded in Canada between 1996-2006.

But Jay Kerr-Wilson said it's uncertain whether consumers will see any of that back, given that music juggernaut iTunes charges customers a flat \$0.99 (or more) per song.

The music downloading and streaming decision was linked to another one that dealt with software companies that sell their video games online.

The court found in a 5-4 decision that those firms shouldn't pay royalties for the music that's featured in those video games every time a consumer downloads a product online.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



While the Supreme Court decision reined in many copyright levies, music consumers — such as iTunes users — shouldn't expect big savings.

Vow to stay on budget when planning a wedding



Wedding costs add up quickly, but renting a dress could be an option for a bride on a budget, costing a few hundred dollars. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Many young couples dream of throwing a huge traditional wedding, surrounded by throngs of family members and friends, followed by a splashy reception that guests will always remember.

But it's essential for young people to start off on the right foot financially, particularly those who are weighed down by large student debts and starting off a new career.

To ensure your dreams don't get the best of your finances, think about how you can create a memorable occasion all the while putting expenses under the

microscope.

Costs add up quickly, and before you know it, your wedding could run a tab of up to \$20,000 or more.

Websites like Wedding-wire.com or theknot.com can help break down potential costs.

If you opt to have the wedding away from home, throwing a pre-wedding party to include friends and family in the celebration is an idea.

Friends and family helping with the food preparation is a great way to save money and also adds a personalized touch to the party.

Renting a dress could also be an option for a bride on a budget, costing a few hundred dollars.

You could also opt for a homemade cake and appetizers, as well as simpler finger foods, or skip the dinner portion altogether and invite guests for an enjoyable night of dancing.

Closing the bar during dinner, or opting for a cash bar can also help cut costs significantly.

Destination weddings allow the bride and groom to save money because your wedding and honeymoon can be rolled into one.

When held at an all-inclusive, there are few out-

side costs — and even dinner and drinks are included in the initial price tag.

It also helps keep the guest list small because friends and family front their own costs for the vacation.

If you are having a wedding at home, try limiting your guest list, choosing a date off peak season or on a less popular day than Saturday.

A fancier, more extravagant wedding won't necessarily make it any more romantic or memorable, but it could cost you a lifetime of debt if you're not careful.

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SUN IS SHINING, THIS SPECIES IS SWEET



THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
Metro

1 The Blacker the Berry.... RIM CEO Thorsten Heins announced that the BlackBerry 10 launch will be delayed until the first quarter of 2013. Surely, this

is a shrewd ploy to lure iPhone and Android producers into a false sense of success during peak purchasing season before unleashing their messianic unicorn upon an economically depressed public just teeming with buyer's remorse. That'll show 'em.

2 1,000 words. There is nothing funny about the wildfires that ravaged the western U.S., but pictures of the disaster captured by astronauts have given the International Space Station the distinction of "most expensive camera" in the universe.

3 Reverse psychology. U.S. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney was booed at the NAACP annual conference, and responded by saying, "If I don't stand for what they want, go vote for someone else." Nice strategy. I wonder if that could become his new campaign slogan.

4 Katie's cruisin'. Kudos to the recently divorced Holmes and Tom Cruise for achieving a settlement that was quicker and more mature than a Kim Kardashian marriage.

5 Career legacy. After eight Oscar nominations, four Golden Globes, a BAFTA and an Emmy, 80-year-old, Royal Academy-trained Peter O'Toole, announced his retirement from showbiz this week. His statement triggered an immediate outcry on Twitter: "OMG. That's the dude that played the voice of Anton in Ratatouille."

6 Behind the mask. Rock star Marilyn Manson responded to a rumour that he was dating Avril Lavigne by saying, "F-k that, she's Canadian," demonstrating once again the fine line between musical genius and complete ignoramus.

7 Is this love? Among Caribbean coral reefs, there exists a small species of "gnathidiids" that will now be known as Gnathia marleyi. Paul Sikkell, marine biologist at Arkansas State University, says he named them after Bob Marley because they are "a natural wonder and as uniquely Caribbean." I am sure that Bob's family cannot fathom a greater honour than to have his name attached to a parasitic crustacean blood feeder that infests fish.

8 Spaced out. Astronomers using NASA's Hubble Space Telescope discovered a fifth moon orbiting Pluto. I have absolutely no idea what this means.

9 Muppet music. Can you tell me how to get to Sesame Street? Well, it seems that all you need is a massive hit like Canadian sensation Carly Rae Jepsen's Call Me Maybe. A snack-inspired version entitled Share It Maybe, performed by the legendary Cookie Monster has received thousands of YouTube hits this week, solidifying the 45-year-old muppet's place in the annals of popular music. Eat your heart out, Marilyn Manson.

10 Calling all students. If you're not backpacking through Europe, make up an excuse for whatever lame internship you've taken and hop on a flight to Jamaica in the next few days. It's Reggae Sumfest with Fergie, Kelly, Lady Saw, Damian Marley, Trey Songz and more. You're young.

You may not remember it, but you won't regret it. Irie.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList



Gnathia marleyi, a tiny blood-sucking marine parasite, named after Jamaican reggae icon Bob Marley. ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alabama dogs play it cool



DAVE MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Unleashed in the U.S.

Dog days of summer have just begun

An unidentified Great Dane inspects one of the many fountains at the new Alabama Dream Dog Park in Alabaster, Ala., Thursday.

The \$500,000 US renovation creates a dog park with many unique features, which include custom-designed splash pads to keep dogs cool during hot Alabama summers, a fetch football field with fire hy-

drant goal posts, a hill that dogs and owners can climb together to enjoy the view, a doggie-wash station, and an adventure path with tunnels and agility hoops, among others.

The concept for the park came from former Shelby Humane Society executive director Jenny Wilson, who won the Beneful dream dog park contest.

"It's so much more than I could have ever imagined," Wilson told local media after taking her dogs Honey Belle and Baxter, through the park. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A dog runs through the fountains at the new Alabama Dream Dog Park. The park is complete with tables and water fountains — some tall enough for humans and some low enough for dogs.



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Twitter

@OhSusannah63: • • • •

John's cousin Brent actually called #Halifax #Halifornia in conversation four times today. Apparently the weather impressed him!

@butterfield888: • • • •

Whoa, #Halifax must have lots of Hanson fans. They are Sold Out for their Casino show here in Aug

@Gardner506: • • • •

In Halifax. Wow so many people

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@melnoo: • • • •

Overheard in #hfx #convention-center #LOTR "I think it's a really big office building or something, like the two towers"

@TheRealRGM81: • • • •

The Google Maps car is driving around Halifax. Smile and wave!



Ice Age: Continental Drift suffers from a lazy script. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD
CROUSE AND
MARK BRESLIN



Ice Age pleases kids, freezes out adults

Tired and trite. Latest installment of this family franchise has the reviewers counting the years till these characters are extinct

Richard: Chris, I loved the Simpsons short that plays before Ice Age. It's a funny, gently paced thriller for kids with jokes that parents and film geeks will love. In fact, I wanted more of that and less of Ice Age. The main feature is nicely animated but is saddled with a story so by-the-book it feels like it would have been old hat even in the ice age. That's my take. You, however, had two of the world's youngest film critics with you. What did they think?

Chris: Indeed, I brought my sons Jack, 5, and Elliot, 3, with me and as you'll read in the sidebar, they were more impressed than I. Now, I'd watch a movie about lawn darts if it was in 3D, so my eyeballs were pleased by all the razzle dazzle. But other than that ... Ice Age left me kinda numb. And here's my biggest problem with the picture and all of the Ice Age films ... Manny the Mammoth... you can't see his mouth. He has NO expressions. The dullest animated hero in recent memory.

RC: Manny's not aided by a lazy script that feels like it was run through the Cliché-O-Matic. The theme — family and friends mean everything — has been done before and better. Couple that with jokes that come out of nowhere and feel tacked on, and you're left

with a movie that is as lifeless as Manny's expression.

CA: Absolutely. It also doesn't help that dead-eyed Manny is voiced by Ray Romano, whose velvet tones remind me of a post-pubescent Kermit the Frog. The rest of the cast phones it in too (maybe literally!), obviously due in part to that sleepy script you've mentioned. The only one that registers is Game of Thrones' Peter Dinklage, who is monstrous and scuzzy as the pirate monkey Captain Gutt.

RC: Agreed. Dinklage is horrifying and scuzzy, in a good way. Also horrifying: they still have 20,000 years of history and sequel potential to go.

CA: Until they end up in space, right? But our gripes won't stop the kids from dragging their

Critique

Children weigh in...

Forget what the crabby adults have to say, Ice Age: Continental Drift is aimed squarely at the kids. My sons — junior film critics Jack, 5, and Elliot, 3, — joined Richard and I at a recent screening and had plenty to say about the experience. "I liked the 3D," said Jack, who usually tosses his glasses out of frustration mid-way through the film. As for little Elliot, at one point during Ice Age's relentless slapstick shtick, he laughed, shook his head, turned to me and in a voice loud enough that the entire theatre could hear him said "Dad, this is REALLY stupid!" Out of the mouths of babes....

SCENE

Scene in brief

Shaq is back — on TV

Cable channel truTV is putting Shaquille O'Neal on its team with a new series. The channel said Wednesday that it's ordered 10 episodes of Upload with Shaquille O'Neal, the working title for a series with the basketball star. Actors and comics Gary Owen and Godfrey will join O'Neal on the show. The trio, along with a weekly guest, will share funny videos they find online and create their own, truTV said. Pranks and pop culture parodies also will be part of the mix. In a statement, O'Neal promised Upload will "deliver big laughs." A debut date for the series was not announced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web



DreamWorks plans to bring Shrek, Kung Fu Panda to theme park at stalled New Jersey mall

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To Rome with Love

Director. Woody Allen

Stars. Woody Allen, Penelope Cruz, Alec Baldwin

• • • •

To Rome with Love is well-meaning, but feels like something Woody Allen would have written 40 years ago. It's an episodic screwball comedy with loads of characters, identity mix-ups and the comic's trademarked highbrow references — will today's audience get a Howard Roark joke? It has the same kind of farcical feel and references of his earlier work — look for older men paired with younger women, anxiety and discussions on foreign film — but written decades ago it might have been funnier.

RICHARD CROUSE



The Intouchables

Director. Olivier Nakache

Stars. François Cluzet, Omar Sy, Anne Le Ny

• • • •

A massive box-office hit in its native France, The Intouchables mines a fascinating true-life story about a wealthy quadriplegic's friendship with his caregiver for slick populist uplift: it's a tear-jerking, subtitled version of The Odd Couple. Omar Sy and Francois Cluzet give polished performances in the leads, but the film is sentimental and manipulative — the fact that it is proudly and unashamedly so doesn't make it any less enervating.

ADAM NAYMAN



Crooked Arrows

Director. Steve Rash

Stars. Brandon Routh, Michael Hudson, Gil Birmingham

• • • •

Sports movies by definition have a predetermined ending — the underdog team wins despite the odds, or loses the game, but wins on moral grounds. Despite this, Hollywood continues to churn the things out like they were Avengers' solo films. Crooked Arrows in no way deviates from this pattern — it literally lifts its plot points from the Mighty Ducks, replacing inner city kids playing hockey with first-nations kids playing lacrosse.

IAN GORMELY

Hathaway happy her claws took spotlight

Workouts. Catwoman actress says the focus was never on how sexy she looked, but rather on how she could fight

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

When Anne Hathaway signed on to play Catwoman for The Dark Knight Rises, she quickly found out that the bar for physical preparation had already been set pretty high by her new co-star, Joseph Gordon-Levitt.

"When I got the part, Chris (Christopher Nolan) had called me into his office and said, 'OK, so, there's going to be a lot of fighting, and when we did Inception, Joe got in really good shape. Joe went to the gym for months so when he did his fight sequence he did all of his own fighting. I really liked that,'" Hathaway remembers.

"And I went, 'Gotcha. I'm reading between the lines here.' And I just went to the



Anne Hathaway hit the gym the entire time she was filming. HANDOUT

gym and came out when we wrapped."

But unlike with other female superhero roles, Hathaway relished the feeling that the focus was never on how sexy she looked.

"I don't know what other actresses have gone through, (but) I feel like sometimes there's a mandate that comes

to you, an ideal of how you have to look, and the way I was treated on this movie was, 'learn how to do what you need to do, and then however you look that's the way the character looks,'" she says.

"And I just felt, as a woman, very protected in that way."

PG

www.iceagemovie.com

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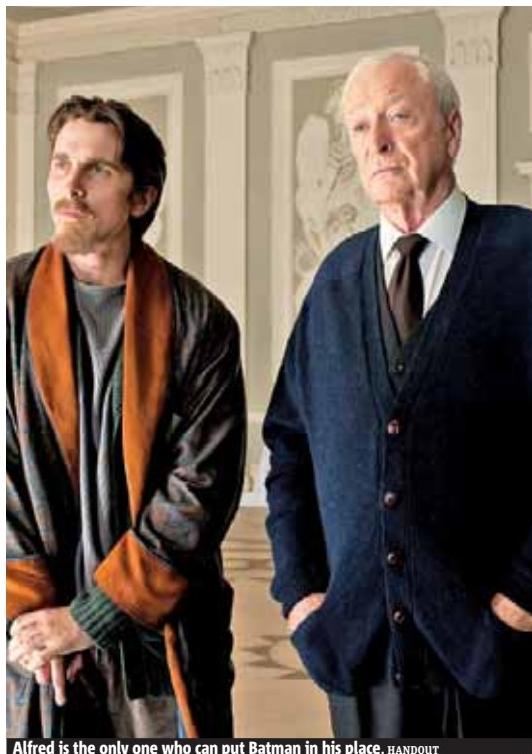
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The butler speaks. Caine has no regrets about un-retiring to play Alfred



Alfred is the only one who can put Batman in his place. HANDOUT

Since first playing the role of Bruce Wayne's butler, surrogate father and confidant, Alfred, in 'Batman Begins', Michael Caine has become a fixture in Christopher Nolan's work. And he hopes to keep it that way.

You've developed quite a working relationship with Christopher Nolan.

I'm the good luck charm. Chris always says, "You're my good luck charm," and say, "No, Chris. You're my good luck charm." I had retired, and now I've gone and made the biggest pictures I've ever made. I know I'm not the star of them, but that's not the point. They're things that will go down in movie history — especially this one. I wouldn't want to do a fourth and try and top this.

So we can assume you'll be in whatever he decides to next, right?

I've been in every big movie he's made since he started Batman. I was in 'Prestige', where I had a very good part. It wasn't a very big part for me in 'Inception', but it was very good for me because I was in the beginning and the end. I was important because it's a very puzzling movie. I say to people, "If I'm in it, it's real. If I'm not, it's a dream." And that's the answer. I only worked for four days. I worked two days in London on 'Inception', and about three months later two days in Los Angeles. He always uses the same actors, and I didn't real-

Alfred knows best

Over the course of the Batman series, Alfred has given Bruce Wayne some great lectures. Here's what Michael Caine has to say about that:

- Well, I'm the only one who'd dare tell him off, tell him what a moron he is for going out and trying to do all this stuff. In this one, I start with, 'You've been gone eight years and I prayed you'd never come back,' (laughs).

Do you have a personal favourite of the talking-to's you've given him?

- There was one in this (film), when he gets off a helicopter and I corner him and give him a lecture there. I can't remember the gist of it — I haven't seen the picture in two or three weeks. I give him a lecture about, "You're not who you were." You get the feeling in the audience like how dare he talk to Batman like that? And he's the only one who can. But he has a point.

ly know who was in 'Inception'. And I turned up to greet everybody at the end, and the whole cast of Batman walked off the airplane (laughs).

NED EHRBAR, MWN

As the trilogy wraps, Bale needs a moment alone

The Dark Knight Rises.

Actor dishes about how he overcame his claustrophobia in the name of fighting crime and saving Gotham

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

For Christian Bale, who's played Batman three times now for Christopher Nolan, creating a role that redefined both the legendary character and the British actor, the last time he put on the bat suit was a lot like the first time — and in each instance he needed a bit of alone time. "The first time I ever put on the actual one myself I thought, 'Oh, Chris has to (re-do) the cast.' Because the claustrophobia was just unbelievable," Bale remembers.

"I stood there and I thought, 'I can't breathe, I can't think, this is too tight, this is squeezing my head, I'm gonna panic, I'm about to have a nervous

On the web



Who was the best Batman and what villains are worthy of our fear — or scorn? Metro delved deep into the cavernous world of the caped crusader to mark the release of *The Dark Knight Rises*, in theatres next week. Scan this code or visit metronews.ca/features/the-dark-knight-rises.

breakdown, a panic attack right this second." So I said, 'Can everyone just leave me alone for 20 minutes?'

The break did the trick, as Bale estimates he's spent 21 months of his life under Batman's cowl — with some improvements over the years, like giving Bale the ability to take it off whenever he needed. And when the final day of



Christian Bale estimates he's spent 21 months of his life in the bat suit. HANDOUT

shooting in the suit arrived — a scene that paired Bale with Anne Hathaway's Catwoman on a New York City rooftop — Bale found himself feeling a similar need for privacy, though for a different reason.

"I was wrapped, and I just went down and sat in a room and I realized, 'This is it. I'm not gonna be taking this cowl off again,'" Bale says. "So again, I said, 'Can you please leave me alone for 20 minutes?' and sat with that moment. It was a very important moment for me. It's been a very important character, and the movies themselves

have changed my life and changed my career."

Speaking of time, Bale couldn't really tell you how long anything took to film in the massive superhero flick because he intentionally wasn't paying attention — in order to save his sanity. "You know, there's such long schedules on these movies. I don't like to think about time, otherwise I get depressed," he says. "So I just sort of do it as though it's like one day at a time for me. Because if you look and go, 'Oh, only 124 days left,' it gets tricky to get up at four in the morning."

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Cristine Prosperi as Imogen Moreno in Degrassi. CAITLIN CRONENBERG

The Degrassi kids are back for 12th season

New episodes. Metro talks to actress Cristine Prosperi about why the TV show continues to rake in viewers

IAN GORMELY
scene@metronews.ca

While the rest of the television world is taking the summer off, the cast of Degrassi are amping up for the premiere of their 12th season, which continues to chronicle the exploits of the famed East-side school's students.

"I feel like every Canadian teenager has watched Degrassi," says Cristine Prosperi, who plays senior Imogen Moreno on the long-running series. "It's a huge thing for everyone."

Over the years, Degrassi has enjoyed incredible success, especially here in Canada. Its current incarnation has proved particularly tenacious thanks to a steady flow of new characters that cycle

in as old ones graduate.

A long-time fan of the program, Prosperi chalks up the series' longevity to its continued commitment to portraying teens as real people instead of the glossy Hollywood-version showcased on so many teen dramas. "Nothing is fake, nothing is over the top," she says. "Teens relate to us so much because it's not glamorous at Degrassi."

Prosperi grew up in Newmarket and has worked in television since her debut in a Unico pasta commercial at age three. She originally auditioned for the role of Katie Matlin, but was brought back to read for Imogen instead.

Still in Grade 12 when she was cast, she found out after her phone started vibrating in class and she retreated to the bathroom to answer the call from her agent. "I was crying the whole day," she says.

The summer season was shot quickly in order to accommodate myriad plot lines. Multiple new episodes will air throughout the week.

And while the series' July 16 premiere focuses on the

Premiere

To coincide with the premiere of Degrassi's 12th season, the nation's music station is holding a free screening event at its 299 Queen St. West headquarters, including special episodes of New.Music.Live. and Today's Top 10.

- The event will feature members of the cast who will be signing autographs and taking part in a Q&A session prior to the season premiere.
- To be part of the New.Music.Live. audience or for more info, check out muchmusic.com.

Drew-Bianca-Katie love triangle, relegating Imogen to the background, Prosperi promises we'll learn more about Imogen's home life and "why she is the way she is" over the summer's 20-episode run.

SALE INTO SUMMER
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An advertisement for Bedford Place Mall. It features a yellow banner at the top with the text "SALE INTO SUMMER" and "THE SALE STARTS JULY 5". Below the banner is a stylized illustration of a sailboat on water. A street lamp post is positioned next to the banner. The main text "SAVE UP TO 75% AT A SELECTION OF RETAILERS" is in large blue letters. Below that, "SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE JULY 5TH TO 15TH" is written. At the bottom, there is a logo for "Bedford Place Mall" with the tagline "You'll find it here." and the website "BEDFORDPLACEMALL.COM".

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An advertisement for the Halifax International Busker Festival 2012. It features a large graphic of a person performing a handstand on a pole. The text "HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL BUSKER FESTIVAL 2012" is written in a circular, dynamic font. Below the graphic, the date "AUGUST 2-12" is prominently displayed. Further down, it says "CELEBRATE NATAL DAY AUGUST 2 - 6" and "HUNDREDS OF MIND BLOWING SHOWS ON THE HALIFAX WATERFRONT". At the bottom, there is a row of logos for sponsors including WestJet, Historic Properties, 101.3 BOUNCE, Halifax Regional Municipality, metrone.ca, Waterfront Development, Budget, G100, Canadian Heritage, and Nova Scotia.com.

HUNDREDS OF MIND BLOWING SHOWS
ON THE HALIFAX WATERFRONT

Hot Chip happy to let music do the talking

In Our Head. Owen Clarke speaks to Metro about not forcing things, their new album and avoiding the traps most musicians make

HEIDI PATALANO
Metro World News

Owen Clarke is known for his moves. The Hot Chip multi-instrumentalist can be found in a host of YouTube videos, getting down to his band's beats while slapping the bass or rocking the keys at a gig.

There's even a Facebook page called Owen Clarke — Dancing King. While somewhat modest about his own dance floor capabilities, Clarke does admit there's a very special thing that happens when it comes to playing a gig.

"It's this energy meeting — it sounds sort of hippie-ish



Musicians Al Doyle, Alexis Taylor and Joe Goddard of the band Hot Chip perform at Coachella. KARL WALTER/GETTY IMAGES

but it is kind of true — people come together to see a thing, you go there to do a thing and so, you know, it's set up for a good thing from the outset," he says.

Hot Chip made their mark back in 2006 for creating an irresistibly danceable combination of R&B and synth pop on *The Warning*, and three albums later, with the recent release of *In Our Heads*, the band finds themselves still keeping the energy level buoyantly blissful.

"Whenever we make a record, we are the same people and we have the same sort of agenda every single time," Clarke says. "There's no sort of plan. There never is, which is how we've ridden our luck for so long."

Quoted

"There's no sort of plan. There never is, which is how we've ridden our luck for so long."

Owen Clarke
Talking about creative process

award-winning actor Terence Stamp will be singing their lyrics to the camera. But why have stand-ins when Clarke in particular is such a smooth mover?

"There's a perception of who we are that isn't very close to the actual truth of who we are because we've never put up a front of being guys who are in a rock band, or being aloof and very synthy, or being anything in particular, regardless of what anyone may or may not think," Clarke says.

"It's nice to let the music speak for itself and let the video tell the story that it does with other people. We're not afraid of being in our own videos. It's just nice to let the best people do the best job. We like to make the videos as fun as we can and we don't like to get in the way of that by insisting on being in them and posturing and doing that sort of thing — we save that for being on stage. We don't posture onstage, but, you know."

The band's playful sensibility has always been particularly notable when it comes to their music videos, in which more often than not, anyone from a fake boy band to

Sound Check



Once you are hooked, it will be impossible to let go of your streaming site. ISTOCK PHOTOS

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SOUND CHECK

Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

First, I ignored it. Then I fought back. Now it's sucked me in.

I swore I would always buy vinyl, CDs and downloads. Physical possession was the only way to go. The idea of "renting" music repulsed me. However, now I'm in its thrall. I can't imagine ever doing without it.

It happened when I was sitting with the dog at Starbucks one Sunday morning, breezing through emails. One of the newsletters I get raved about a particular song — an album track — from a super-obscure indie band from Los Angeles. "You MUST hear this song," the newsletter said.

In the old days, I'd have to write down the artist and album information and hope to remember it the next time I planned a visit to the record store. If I did remember, if it was in stock and if I was willing to part with \$20, I could hear for myself what this reviewer was talking about. If I agreed with his assessment, fine. If not, I was out time and money.

But on this particular Sunday morning, I simply switched to a streaming app and launched a search for the band and the song. I was listening to it within 20 seconds. I tapped to acknowledge that I wanted to download a file of the song to my iPhone so I could listen even when I wasn't connected.

It wasn't until the dog and I were halfway home that I realized I'd had a revelatory consumer experience. Such instant musical gratification. Mind. Blown.

Since then, the dog and I have discovered an insane amount of new music. The second I hear about something new, I look for it on a streaming service.

In the last month or so, I've accumulated music from more than a 100 albums, all of which are instantly accessible from my iPhone (which, of course, I also plug into my car's entertainment system). I can listen even when I'm on an airplane. The cost? Just my \$10/month subscription.

Yes, if I stop paying, all this music goes away. That's why I still buy the music I really want to keep. The problem is that streaming has led me to buy even more CDs and vinyl than before.

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More stripping may be in the cards for Channing

Channing Tatum isn't surprised his semi-autobiographical male stripper movie, *Magic Mike*, is a success — and he's already got a sequel planned.

"We're working on the concept now," he tells the U.K. edition of *Glamour* magazine. "We want to flip the script and make it bigger."

Meanwhile, Tatum is more than happy to throw his hat into the ring when it comes to who should star in the film adaptation of the steamy hit novel *Fifty Shades of Grey* — under the condition that he co-star with real-life wife Jenna Dewan. "I'd only be allowed if my wife was Ana. She's read the books so I don't think she'd be impressed if she couldn't be Ana," he tells the magazine.



Twitter



@NathanFillion

Man, I'm getting pretty riled up about Comicon. I know not everyone can make it, but who's going?



@SethGreen

Heading to #Comicon for the weekend. Fair warning, I'll be tweeting a LOT. But it'll be #SDCC stuff so maybe you'll want it.



@NiaVardalos

In the air, loving #GoGoNflight so I can get my emails answered.



@Joan_Rivers

Tom Cruise's divorce settlement is a lot like John Travolta's last massage — both of them cost a fortune for a happy ending.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



More trouble in the Moore household?

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

After her split from Ashton Kutcher and subsequent rehab trip, Demi Moore has been spotted out and about looking pretty great — or at least alive enough. But it seems not all is well with her family just yet.

"There's a wedge between Demi and her girls," a

source tells Us Weekly of her daughters, Rumer, Scout and Tallulah.

According to the source, Demi didn't speak to them at Tallulah's high school graduation last month.

"Demi is beside herself over the situation," a family friend tells RadarOnline.com. "She hasn't spoken to Scout, Rumer or Tallulah for weeks now, they won't return any of her calls, emails or texts."

Rich people, take note: If your teenagers don't need your car for the weekend, it's quite possible that you will never hear from them again.

Andrew Garfield. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Spider Man vs. Edward Cullen

Andrew Garfield might be young and British with hair you want to shave your face in, but don't compare the Amazing Spider-Man star to Robert Pattinson.

"The truth is, Andrew can't stand Rob. He hates that they're put in the same category because they're both English and around

the same age," a source tells Us Weekly.

"Andrew considers himself a 'serious actor' and sees Rob as the equivalent of a cheesy boy-band because of *Twilight*."

Spider-Man vs. Edward Cullen: Why do we have a feeling this ends in a snuggle pile of fangs?

A princess for the Queen?

Queen Latifah is looking to start a family via adoption, she revealed on a visit to The View this week.

"I'm actually kind of working on that," the actress/rapper said when asked by

Barbara Walters if she'd ever consider adopting a child.

"I think I saw one of those specials — you know, those movies of the week. And it was like, I just always wanted to bring a child home."

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LIFE

Celebrate

A day just for frozen goodness

If you're looking for more of a reason to enjoy everyone's favourite summer treat, consider that this Sunday is National Ice Cream Day. Invented in 1984 by American president Ronald Reagan (who actually declared all of July National Ice Cream Month and the third Sunday in July National Ice Cream Day), the festivities have spread to Canada.

According to data from the NPD Group, Canadians ate more than 121 million servings of ice cream at quick-service restaurants in 2011.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Web



Kids love ice cream even more with these tips for a frozen treat bar

Liquid Assets

Polish vodka shows its sweet side



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
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I like ice cream as much as the next guy, but I never thought there would ever be a reason to want to make my own — until I read *Ice Cream Happy Hour* (\$16.95, Ulysses Press) by Valerie Lum and Jenise Addison.

Though you'll need an ice cream maker to create these ladies' boozy treats from scratch, their simple, spirit-laden recipes are amazingly easy to create and open the door to dozens of cocktail-inspired desserts that scream summer.

If that all sounds too much like a Food Network series gone wrong, you can cheat your way to spiked frozen treats through Internet recipes that mix pre-made ice cream with every imaginable combination of liqueurs and hard liquor.

Vodka is the foundation of many a creamy creation and one with a bit of guts adds to the glory of any icy, adult-oriented endeavor.

The Poles know their neutral spirits and, apparently, so does actor Bruce Willis. Mr. Die Hard is a part owner of Sobieski (\$22.62 - \$27.98), Poland's top ranked, rye-based vodka that combined a muscular expression of flavour with a well-rounded, grainy personality. Did I hear the ice cream truck? PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.



This recipe makes 12 sandwiches. MATTHEW MEAD / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A whole new way to scream for ice cream

Summertime Ice Cream Sandwiches.

Add a bit more pizzazz to your fave frozen treats with cookies and sweet toppings

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.

2. Place 1/4 cup of sugar in shallow dish. In bowl, use electric mixer to beat remaining 1 cup of sugar, the butter, vanilla, almond extract and rum until light and

fluffy. Add the egg, scraping down the sides of the bowl and mixing until well incorporated. Stir in the flour, salt and baking powder.

3. Scoop the dough by the tablespoonful and form into balls. One at a time, place each ball of dough in the sugar in the shallow dish. Roll around until all sides are coated. Arrange the sugared balls of dough on the prepared baking sheet, leaving 2 inches between them to allow for spreading. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes, or until the edges are just beginning to brown. Allow to cool on the baking sheet.

4. While the cookies cool, remove the sherbet or sorbet and ice cream from the freezer. One at a time, microwave for 10 to 15 seconds, or just long enough to soften. In a large bowl, combine the two flavours and use a rubber spatula to swirl them together. Do not overmix or completely blend them.

5. Overturn 1 cookie and place about 1 tablespoon of the ice cream mixture on it. Top with a second cookie and gently squeeze together. Return to the freezer until firm. If not serving right away, wrap tightly in plastic wrap and store in the freez-

er. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 1/4 cups sugar, divided
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp almond extract
- 2 tbsp spiced rum or brandy
- 1 egg
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 3/4 cup orange sherbet, raspberry sorbet or other fruity frozen dessert
- 3/4 cup vanilla ice cream

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Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.



On now: TD Halifax Jazz Festival

Don't miss your last chance to take in this year's Halifax Jazz Festival on now through Saturday. The festival tent, located on Lower Water Street at the Salter Street extension, offers free concerts during the day and the party continues into the evening, offering even more talent. You can take in the tunes under the stars or check out the other venues. Visit halifaxjazzfestival.ca for more information.



On now: Shakespeare by the Sea

With their indoor theatre, Park Place Theatre, located in the lower parking lot of Point Pleasant Park, come rain or shine the shows will go on through till September. This summer's season returns to Cambridge Battery with theatrical treats like Alice in Wonderland and The Merry Wives of Windsor. Dig deep into your charitable donations as SBT puts every dollar of their pay-what-you-can admissions into giving you the best show possible. For scheduling details, visit shakespearebythesea.ca.



Saturday only: Manulife Dragon Boat Festival

Taking place on the waters of Lake Banook, The Manulife Dragon Boat Festival is an organized fundraiser in support of the Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund, an organization promoting the benefits of health, personal development, and positive achievements for all participants. Teams of 20 will paddle Dragon Boats in a series of fun and friendly races. Free for spectators, a shuttle bus will be available from Alderney Landing. Visit dragonboat.halifax.ns.ca.



On display: Out of This World

Extraordinary Costumes from Film and Television, The Museum of Natural History is hosting this iconic exhibit until Aug. 26. Featuring more than 40 costumes from movies and films like Star Wars, Blade Runner and Batman, the exhibition allows visitors to examine how these famous costumes utilize colour, materials and cultural cues. The 43 artifacts include the leather jacket worn by Harrison Ford in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, and the leather jacket worn by Arnold Schwarzenegger in The Terminator.



Opening Friday: Back Yards & Alleyways

Starting at 7 p.m., come celebrate Halifax's fastest growing neighbourhood through the eyes of painter Mary Garoutte. After years focusing on her treasured "wearable" art, Garoutte returns to Argyle Fine Art with her next instalment of large-scale paintings that celebrate Halifax's north end and the vibrant communities that are constantly growing and changing. Garoutte's paintings, and some city-inspired, wearable miniature water-colour works, will be on display through Aug. 17.

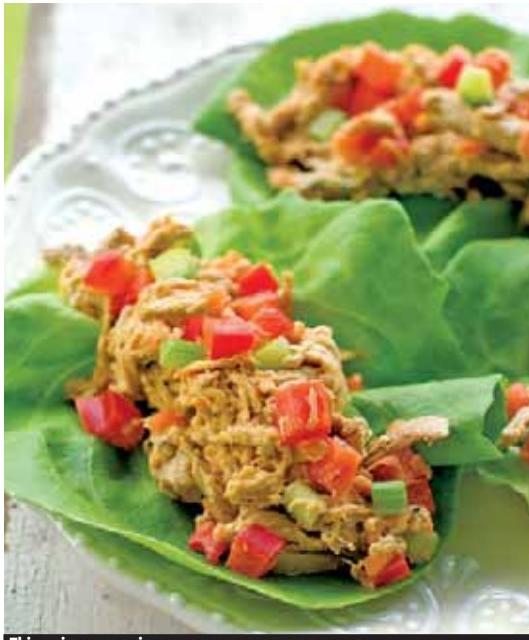


MIX OF SIX
Jenna Conter
halifax@metronews.ca



Now open: Humani-T Café

The delicious gelato joint that has made the north end the sweetest place to visit on a summer's day now has a new location in downtown Halifax. Opening earlier this month at 1451 South Park St. in The Trillium, the open-air dessert spot not only offers sweet treats, but also provides a variety of savoury delights, ranging from its perfect breakfast egg sandwich, to soups, salads, and of course, a wide-variety of loose-leaf teas.



This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Slimming down pulled pork

Pulled pork is a treat often reserved as an occasional indulgence. Which probably is good, since it tends to be made with some of the fattier pieces of pork smothered with a sugary sauce and piled on a roll.

For a healthier version, change the cut of meat by using pork tenderloin. For the sauce, do something a little out of the ordinary by going with a tangy vinaigrette-style sauce. Finally, skip the bun entirely.

1. In pot, combine pork, stock, 1/2 teaspoon of salt, 1/2 teaspoon of pepper, the garlic,

bay leaves, cloves and pickling spice. Bring the mixture to a simmer and cook until the pork is fork tender, about 1 hour.

2. Remove pork from liquid and allow to cool until easily handled. Using 2 forks or your fingers, shred or pull apart the pork into strands. Set aside.

3. In bowl, whisk vinegar, olive oil, hot sauce, sour cream and orange zest. Stir in bell pepper, celery, carrot and pork. Season with salt and pepper.

4. To serve, offer bowls of

the pulled pork with lettuce leaves. Diners can spoon pork

into each leaf and eat as a wrap. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lbs pork tenderloin, cut into 2-inch chunks
- 1 quart no-salt chicken or vegetable stock
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 4 cloves garlic, smashed
- 3 bay leaves
- 1 tsp whole cloves
- 1 tbsp pickling spice blend
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar or sherry vinegar
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Splash of hot sauce
- 1/4 cup low-fat sour cream
- 1 tsp finely grated orange zest
- 1 red bell pepper, cored and finely chopped
- 1 stalk celery, finely chopped
- 1 carrot, grated
- Bibb lettuce, to serve

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SPORTS

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MLB

"In trying to convey my feelings about a few issues that I am passionate about, I made the mistake of naming some specific players. This was inappropriate and unfair to those players, some of which are very close friends of mine."

Reggie Jackson says he messed up by disparaging Alex Rodriguez, Gary Carter and other big names in baseball and has been reaching out to make apologies. Jackson, a Hall of Famer, had told Sports Illustrated that Rodriguez's statistics were tainted by the Yankees star's admitted use of performance-enhancing drugs. Jackson also said he didn't see Carter, Kirby Puckett, Phil Niekro, Don Sutton and Jim Rice as Hall members. Jackson is a special adviser with the New York Yankees. The Yankees had told Jackson to stay away from the clubhouse and team events following his pointed remarks — the magazine, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press earlier this week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jason McCoomb reacts as the wake from another boat hits his canoe on Lake Banook in Dartmouth on Thursday. The Dartmouth native and Banook paddler was home for a media event and will compete in the Summer Olympics next month. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

QMJHL

Eichel not expected to join Moose next year

It appears the Halifax Mooseheads have not been successful in landing Jack Eichel for the start of the 2012-13 season.

The Mooseheads' first pick, 15th overall, in June's QMJHL draft has listened to what the club has to offer but is expected to stick with his plan to join the U.S. development program next season, according to sources.

Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell declined to comment, but an announcement could be coming in the next few days.

On draft day, Russell described the six-foot, 175-pound centre as "the best player in the draft" and said the Mooseheads were "confident" they could get the Boston University-bound teen to change his course.

Eichel, from North Chelmsford, Mass., finished fourth in Empire Junior Hockey League scoring last season with the Boston Bruins, piling up 86 points in just 36 games.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

McCoomb at his best under pressure

Paddling. Teenaged Dartmouth canoeist is headed to the Summer Olympics after emerging out of nowhere

Mobile sports

MATTHEW
WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

For a 19-year-old paddler, Jason McCoomb is about as pressure-tested as they come.

Not only has the Dartmouth canoeist dominated his age group on the biggest stages, winning three gold medals at the 2009 Canada Games and three more at the 2010 Pan American junior canoe championships, he burst onto the scene at the senior level this year to clinch Canada's C-1 200-metre spot at the Olympics.

That process involved winning a race-off against 2004 Olympian Richard Dalton and then beating veteran Aaron Rublee — eight years his senior — in back-to-back

World Cups in May.

When the stakes are high, history shows McCoomb rises to the occasion.

"I think I always do better when there's something on the line," McCoomb says. "I just kind of use all the nervous energy and it makes me get a little more pumped up. It seems to help a lot."

McCoomb is one of three Nova Scotian paddlers at the Olympics and will compete on Aug. 10 and 11 in Buckinghamshire. It's all been something of a whirlwind

for an athlete who came into 2012 just hoping to make the senior national team.

"Initially I was thinking 2016 (for the Olympics)," says McCoomb. "I didn't really know what to expect going into (the season).... Then I started doing some pretty good times (and that's when) I figured I might have a shot."

When asked about McCoomb's speedy rise to prominence, his veteran coach, Laszlo (Csom) Latorovszki, said he's never seen

anything like it.

"Fastest I've ever seen," he says. "Really."

High praise from a man who has coached his share of Olympians, but Latorovszki says he's becoming "less and less surprised" by McCoomb's success.

"It's turning into expectation," Latorovszki says. "The sky's the limit right now. He's still improving."

Since clinching his Olympic spot, McCoomb has been training three times a day — on the water in the morning and afternoon and in the weight room in between — and continues to get stronger and faster.

He's coming off a good two-week camp in Montreal during which he posted the best times of his career. With the stakes higher than ever, McCoomb wants to continue his breakthrough in London.

"I just need to have my best race," McCoomb says. "My time has been and should be competitive, so if I have my personal-best performance, I should be in the mix."

Nova Scotians benefit from new event

This is the first year for the 200-metre distance in paddling at the Olympics and it's been a big plus for Nova Scotians, with three competing in the discipline — Dartmouth's Jason McCoomb (C-1 200), Halifax's

Mark de Jonge (K-1 200) and Windsor's Ryan Cochrane (K-2 200).

"It's a fun event," McCoomb said. "Everybody's really close and it comes down to thousandths of a second. It's been really cool to see the level come up so quickly."

Prior to 2012, only the 500- and 1,000-metre distances were Olympic disciplines.

Golf

McKinnon wins provincial junior golf tourney

Bell Bay's Brett McKinnon won the Nova Scotia Golf Association junior (under 19) boys championship at the Abercrombie Country Club in Antigonish on Thursday.

McKinnon, an 18-year-old coming off his first season of NCAA Division I golf at Jacksonville University in Florida, shot a final-round 7-over 78 to finish with a four-day total of 296 and a four-stroke win over runners up Matt Gallupe of Brightwood and Ryan Nowe of Osprey Ridge.

All three clinched spots on the provincial team that will compete at nationals from July 31 to Aug. 3 at Osprey Ridge in Bridgewater.

Bernadette Little of the host club won her second straight girls championship.

METRO



Jack Eichel GETTY IMAGES

Cycling. Pierre Rolland wins toughest day at Tour

Pierre Rolland of France won the hardest Alpine stage in the Tour de France on Thursday, and Bradley Wiggins dusted defending champion Cadel Evans in the final climb to extend his overall lead.

Rolland gave the Europcar team its second straight stage win after the 148-kilometre 11th stage from Albertville that ended with a grueling ascent to

the ski resort of La Toussuire.

In collecting his second Tour stage victory after another tough uphill finish last year at the fabled Alpe d'Huez, Rolland won by 55 seconds over countryman Thibaut Pinot and third-placed Christopher Froome of Britain. Wiggins and two rivals for the title — Jurgen Van Den Broeck of Belgium and Vincenzo Nibali of Italy — were a further two seconds slower.

Rolland won even after skidding to the ground in a crash during the last big downhill.

"That's not going to stop me," he said.

Wiggins, along with Froome and other Sky teammates, repelled repeated attacks by his yellow jersey rivals over three huge ascents.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted
"I'd been dreaming about this stage for six months ... I got all sorts of messages this morning saying 'it's your turn, it's your turn.'

Pierre Rolland, winner of stage 11 at the Tour de France.

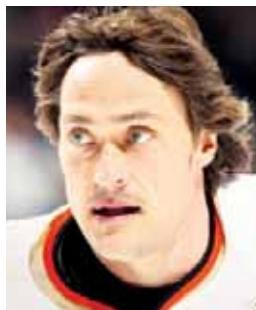
NHL. Selanne back with Ducks for 20th season

Teemu Selanne says he's far from finished with hockey, and the Anaheim Ducks are grateful he's still not feeling his age.

The 42-year-old Selanne agreed Thursday to a one-year, \$4.5 million US deal with the Ducks to return for the 20th NHL season of his remarkable career.

Selanne could end up being the NHL's oldest active player next season, yet he shows no signs of slowing after leading the Ducks in scoring last season. Only Gordie Howe ever scored more points as a 41-year-old than Selanne's 66 last season, and Selanne sees no reason he shouldn't keep going.

"Sometimes, age is just a number," Selanne said in a phone interview while on vacation in Italy. "Age is a funny thing. A lot of times, I don't really feel 42. It's just a number. It all depends on how you feel."



Teemu Selanne GETTY IMAGES FILE

The Finnish Flash's real numbers are much more impressive: Selanne is the 19th-leading scorer in NHL history with 1,406 points in two decades spent mostly in Anaheim, his home for parts of 13 seasons. The right winger is 12th in league history with 663 goals, and could crack the top 10 with another strong season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Edwin Encarnacion celebrates the game-winning run against the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim in June at the Rogers Centre. ABELIMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Jays ink Encarnacion to 3-year extension

MLB. Once-struggling slugger having a great season in Toronto

Edwin Encarnacion's time with the Toronto Blue Jays appeared to be over after a rough 2010 season that saw him demoted to triple-A and ultimately put on waivers.

Two years later, Encarnacion is one of the Blue Jays' most potent weapons in a lineup loaded with offensive potential. And now there is no more uncertainty concerning his immediate future.

The Blue Jays rewarded Encarnacion for his dramatic turnaround Thursday, signing the first baseman to a three-year deal worth \$27 million

US with a \$10-million club option for the 2016 season.

"I'm very happy to be part of this organization for the next three years," Encarnacion said at a news conference. "That's why I signed to stay here. I love this country, I love Toronto and I love the fans."

"We've really seen (Encarnacion) grow as a player, grow as someone who quietly leads in the clubhouse as well that's very well-respected," said Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos. "The ability's always been there. I think it finally started to show at the end of last year and currently now."

Things have not always been smooth for Encarnacion through his eight-year career. Originally a member of the Reds, Encarnacion arrived in

Breakout year

The 29-year-old native of La Romana, Dominican Republic, is having a breakout offensive year for the Blue Jays.

- He is currently batting .295 with 23 home runs and 58 RBIs.
- He is currently tied for fourth in the American League in home runs, fifth in slugging percentage (.595) and seventh in RBIs.

Toronto as part of the trade that sent third baseman Scott Rolen to Cincinnati on July 31, 2009.

He struggled at the start of the 2010 season, and after a particularly disappointing

West Coast road trip he was placed on outright waivers on June 20. He cleared waivers because of his \$5-million contract and was sent to triple-A Las Vegas.

He ended up finishing the 2010 season with the Blue Jays, but was waived in the off-season and claimed by Oakland. When the A's didn't offer him a contract, he returned to the Blue Jays as a free agent.

It's been a winning relationship ever since.

"This game is not easy, it has its ups and downs," Encarnacion said. "They sent me down, I passed waivers, but that's part of this game.... That's why you always have to keep your head up, keep working hard and don't worry about (what you can't control)." THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Tough guy Neil staying put in nation's capital

Chris Neil will remain in the city he has come to know as home.

The Ottawa Senators signed the tough-as-nails veteran forward to a three-year contract extension Thursday. The 33-year-old has spent his entire 10-season career with the Senators, recording 90 goals and 110 assists along with a franchise-leading 1,861 penalty minutes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Kidd prepared to tutor as a Knick

Jason Kidd is already talking about how he'll mentor Jeremy Lin even as the New York Knicks aren't ready to formally announce the young point guard will be returning.

The Knicks introduced two signees Thursday: Kidd and Marcus Camby.

The 39-year-old Kidd plans to tutor Lin at point guard. The biggest lesson Kidd hopes to impart: Don't play in "fifth gear" all the time, to stay fresh late in games and the season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

Raonic exits early from tune-up tournament

Canadian Milos Raonic was ousted from the Hall of Fame Tennis Championships on Thursday, losing 6-3, 6-3 to Germany's Benjamin Becker in the second round.

Becker was able to beat third-seeded Raonic at his own game, firing seven aces to Raonic's five.

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., was using the tournament as a tune-up for the London Olympics.

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No one buying Benevides' game of possum

Mike Benevides, coach of the Grey Cup champion Lions, is pumping the Saskatchewan Roughriders' tires, calling them the CFL's best team prior to the battle of 2-0 squads on Saturday in Regina. Nice try, but the Lions are clearly the best until someone knocks them off.

Glenn gives Stamps chance to rebound

The Stamps' off-season acquisition of veteran backup Kevin Glenn, who has twice passed for 5,000-yards, seemed relatively insignificant at the time as the team placed its fate firmly on new starter Drew Tate's shoulders. Who could have imagined one of those shoulders wouldn't hold up through two games, leaving the offence in Glenn's hands for the next few weeks.



Chamblin a force to be reckoned with on Riders' sideline

The 2-0 Roughies face their best test of the young season by hosting the undefeated Lions on Saturday. An upset win and a 3-0 record would certainly be impressive following a 5-13 campaign in 2011, and would likely trigger early-season lobbying for new man Corey Chamblin as coach of the year.

Burris looking for last laugh vs. Toronto

The Argos might face their toughest test of the season, believe it or not, in a Week 3 showdown with the 0-2 Ticats, obviously hungry for a win. Tabbies QB Henry Burris appeared to be headed to Toronto in the off-season before the Ricky Ray-Steven Jyles trade was hatched, leaving Burris in a less attractive situation in Hamilton. Burris would love to make the Argos regret their decision, at least for one night.



Offence still looking ugly in Edmonton

Thankfully GM Eric Tillman has backed away from his pre-season posturing in support of his ill-conceived QB swap that sent Ricky Ray to Toronto for pivot Steven Jyles. Expect a short leash for Jyles this week as the Eskimos host Winnipeg. Backup Kerry Joseph gives the Eskimos their best chance as Edmonton continues its quest for its first TD pass of the season.

Bombers on road to recovery?

Four road games is an unavoidable way to start the season, but this week the Bombers have a FREE space on their bingo cards called the Edmonton Eskimos. The Eskimos managed to score just one point last week in Regina and should inspire the Winnipeg defence to rediscover its long-lost swagger.



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Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

Community Events

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Cards of Thanks

Cards of Thanks

**MacPhail**

The family of the late Harry Campbell "Cam" MacPhail would like to express our thanks and appreciation to all those who helped us during the days following the loss of our father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

To the many relatives, friends and neighbours who visited, brought food, many thanks for your kindness. Thank you to all who phoned, sent e-mails, cards of sympathy, floral tributes and sent donations to the Valley Regional Hospital, Telford Cemetery and Oaklawn Farm Zoo.

To all who traveled from near and far to be with us at this difficult time, we were overwhelmed with your thoughtfulness.

We would also like to thank the Intensive Care Staff at Valley Regional Hospital, Rev. Ray Francis for his kind words, organist and vocalist, Mrs. Nola Hill for her beautiful music, White Family Funeral Home for their professional staff and kindness and going above and beyond in their help to us. We'd also like to thank Rev. Charles MacPherson for his kind words at Dad's burial in the Telford Cemetery.

The MacPhail Family
Diane, Gerry, Bobby, Kim
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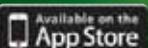
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Across

- 1 Guttural utterance
- 5 Cudgel
- 8 Chore
- 12 Pop
- 13 Mess up
- 14 Wreck
- 15 People in the house
- 17 "Survivor" setting, often
- 18 Antidepressant brand
- 19 Barely perceptible
- 21 Biblical verb suffix
- 22 Boot attachment
- 23 Eggs
- 26 Neptune's realm
- 28 Uses a teaspoon
- 31 Vendetta
- 33 Try the sherry
- 35 Apiece
- 36 Of the unborn
- 38 "— Doubtfire"
- 40 Aye undoer
- 41 Mined-over matter
- 43 Resistance unit
- 45 Box-office buy
- 47 Popular search engine
- 51 Farm fraction
- 52 Farewell
- 54 Equine coloration
- 55 Lingerie buy
- 56 Mid-month date
- 57 Army members

58 Scrooge portrayer Alastair

59 Being, to Brutus

Down

- 1 PDQ
- 2 Session with a shrink
- 3 Taro tuber
- 4 Corn
- 5 Pews
- 6 Shuttlecock's path
- 7 Lock of hair
- 8 Purpose of an ode
- 9 Viennese, e.g.
- 10 Ledge
- 11 Wounded —
- 16 Comestibles
- 20 High times
- 23 Vacations
- 24 Churchill gesture
- 25 Ruler with unlimited power
- 27 Intention
- 29 Nipper's co.
- 30 Bashful
- 32 Loses light
- 34 Telecast
- 37 Acting teacher
- 38 Strasberg
- 39 Pump, for one
- 42 Impales
- 44 Flick



45 "GWTW" plantation
46 Clickable figure
48 Pantheon members
49 "True —"

50 Gaelic
53 Swiss canton

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

ME KJS'BW RWWNMTX VJ YJZLVW

KJSB YJTX-YJRV ELVGWB.

EMBRV VBK ZGWZNMTX

VGW ZYLRRMEMWO OLOR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A CARPENTER VISITS A LOCAL TAVERN, I SUPPOSE HE SHOULD ORDER A SCREWDRIVER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals Y

How to play



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20.

Disputes of one kind or another are likely today and if you clash with someone in a position of power, you will come off second best.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. As Uranus, planet of the unexpected, begins its retrograde phase, you cannot afford to take anything you see or hear at face value.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20.

Good news will come your way over the next 24 hours, but can you trust it? It's possible that there is a hidden catch of some kind, or something you must do in return.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22.

Don't take anything for granted or take unnecessary risks. On the work front, especially, you cannot trust colleagues and employers to be totally honest with you. Watch your back.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. You'll get the chance to do something a little bit different today, something in which you would not normally be interested. Don't spend more money on it than you can afford.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.

The planets warn that an idea you have for improving your lot in life could actually make things worse than before. What happens this weekend will remind you of that.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22.

If you put your ego needs above everything else today, you will create resentment among partners and colleagues. Get ahead, but it must not be at other people's expense.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.

You may believe that all things are possible but what happens over the next 24 hours will remind you that not everything comes easy.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec.

21. A week or so from now, the Sun will move into one of the most positive areas of your chart. When it does, your confidence will soar.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20.

You seem to be in a forgiving mood at the moment, but try not to give others the impression that you are going soft in your old age.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb. 18.

You need to accept that certain situations are too big and too complicated for you to handle on your own. Either ask for assistance or focus on things you know how to deal with.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20.

Life has been good to you lately. But as Uranus turns retrograde today you must prepare yourself for some kind of surprise, and it may not be a welcome one. **SALLY BROMPTON**

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	3	4	9	5	1	8	6	7
8	6	9	7	3	4	2	5	1
7	1	5	8	6	2	9	4	3
6	2	3	1	8	5	7	9	4
9	8	7	6	4	3	1	2	5
4	5	1	2	9	7	6	3	8
5	9	8	4	7	6	3	1	2
3	7	2	5	1	9	4	8	6
1	4	6	3	2	8	5	7	9

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Caption Contest

"Finger licking good!" Darryn

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